

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

OFFICIAL

Re: US Patent Application 10/018,979
 Filed December 18, 2001
 Title Muffler Device of a Motor Vehicle, With Variable Damping Characteristic
 Applicant Schumacher et al
 Art Unit 2837
 Examiner Renata McCloud
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 Attorney Docket (E) 1734 US

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APR 22 2004

Mail Stop Response
 Art Unit 2837
 PO Box 1450
 Commissioner for Patents
 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Response to Non-Compliant Amendment

Dear Legal Instruments Examiner Dawkins:

This responds to the Notice of Non-Compliant Amendment mailed on April 15, 2004.

A clean set of the claims as amended, now including all of the claims that were canceled,
 is submitted on the following pages.

05/17/2004 DEVANS 00000014-110665 10018979
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Schumacher (E) 1734 US
 10/018,979
 April 22, 2004